

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-15 ISO-00 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 INR-10 L-03

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AEC FOR FRIEDMAN, DIP AND CONNOR, OPA

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TAGS: TECH, GW, UR, EEC

SUBJ: POSSIBLE GERMAN PURCHASE OF URANIUM ENRICHMENT
SERVICES FROM THE USSR

REF: EC BRUSSELS 4965 AND 5195

1. SUMMARY - REPRESENTATIVES FROM TWO GERMAN UTILITIES, RWE
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GKN, AND F. OBOUSSIER, EURATOM SUPPLY AGENCY, WILL VISIT

MOSCOW NEXT MONTH IN AN ATTEMPT TO REACH FINAL AGREEMENT WITH THE SOVIETS FOR THE SUPPLY OF URANIUM ENRICHMENT SERVICES FOR THREE GERMAN POWER REACTORS. END SUMMARY

2. ON OCT 8, RWE WILL MEET WITH RUSSIAN OFFICIALS TO START THEIR FOURTH ROUND OF DISCUSSIONS WITH THE GOAL OF SIGNING TOLL ENRICHMENT CONTRACTS (VALUED AT APPROX \$20 MILLION) FOR THE INITIAL CORES FOR THE MULHEIM (1200 MWE-PWR) AND BIBLIS (B) (1240 MWE-PWR) REACTORS. CONTRACTS MAY ALSO INCLUDE AN OPTION FOR RELOADS.

3. ON OCT 15, GKN WILL MEET WITH THE SOVIETS TO CONCLUDE THEIR DISCUSSIONS AND, HOPEFULLY, SIGN A LONG-TERM CONTRACT (1974-1984) VALUED AT \$25-26 MILLION FOR THE INITIAL CORE AND RELOADS FOR THE NECKARWESTHEIM REACTOR (760 MWE-PWR). IF THIS DEAL IS SIGNED, IT WILL BE USSR'S FIRST LONG-TERM URANIUM ENRICHMENT CONTRACT.

4. IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE MEETING WITH GKN, THE RUSSIANS WILL MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM BELGIUM AND F. OBOUSSIER TO INITIATE DISCUSSIONS FOR THE SUPPLY OF URANIUM ENRICHMENT SERVICES. (COMMENT: IT IS ASSUMED THAT THE BELGIANS ARE INTERESTED IN OBTAINING THE DELIVERY OF 350,000 KILOGRAM UNITS OF SEPARATIVE WORK IN 1978. THE BELGIANS SUBMITTED A PROPOSAL TO THE USAEC FOR THESE SERVICES (SEE EC BRUSSELS 5100) AND USAEC'S REACTION IS TO DELAY A RESPONSE TO THE BELGIANS UNTIL THE FIRST HALF OF NEXT YEAR. (J. FLAHERTY, USAEC'S ASST. GENERAL MANAGER, INDICATED DURING HIS VISIT TO THE AEC BRUSSELS OFFICE ON SEPT 24 THAT HE WOULD REASSESS AEC'S POSITION ON THE BELGIAN'S PROPOSAL AFTER HIS RETURN TO WASHINGTON.)

5. THE ABOVE CONTRACTS RECEIVED THE APPROVAL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON SEPT 26, ALTHOUGH ONE POINT IS NOT CONSISTENT WITH THE EURATOM TREATY. THAT POINT IS THAT IF RWE AND GKN WISH TO TRANSFER ANY OF THE MATERIAL PURCHASED UNDER THESE CONTRACTS OUTSIDE OF GERMANY, THEY MUST OBTAIN PRIOR APPROVAL FROM THE SOVIETS, WHEREAS THE TREATY PERMITS FREE CIRCULATION AMONG ALL EURATOM COUNTRIES.

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6. RELATED TO USSR URANIUM ENRICHMENT SERVICES, AEC BRUSSELS HAS ALSO BEEN INFORMED THAT M. STEPHANY, NUKEM, WILL VISIT MOSCOW NEXT WEEK TO DISCUSS WITH THE SOVIETS THE ADVANCE PURCHASE OF 3,000,000 KILOGRAM UNITS OF SEPARATIVE WORK AT THE PRICE OF \$32/KG FOR FUTURE USE IN THE GERMAN POWER REACTOR PROGRAM (SEE EC BRUSSELS 5447). GREENWALD

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